

**LOUISIANA  
FOURTH QUARTER 2002  
COVERED EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES**

The average quarterly employment for Louisiana during fourth quarter 2002 was 1,852,537, an increase of 0.5% from the third quarter 2002, and a decrease of 0.9% from the same period in 2001. Employment increased in seven of the 20 NAICS sectors from the third quarter 2002. The largest percentage increase of 10.2% was in educational services. Average quarterly employment by NAICS sector and subsector is shown in the table "Louisiana Statewide" beginning on page 6.

Employment increased in RLMAs one, two, five, seven, and eight from the third quarter 2002. The largest percentage increase in employment from the third quarter 2002 was in educational services in all RLMAs except RLMA 3, which increased in administrative and waste services.

Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the state with 254,220 employees, or 13.7% of total employment. RLMA one was the leading region with 595,209 employees, or 32.1% of total employment.

Average quarterly employment data for fourth quarter 2002, third quarter 2002, fourth quarter 2001, and the percent change for the major industry sectors is shown in the table "Louisiana Average Employment and Units – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2002" on page 3. Louisiana's average employment distribution by NAICS sectors and RLMA can be found in the charts on pages 4 and 5 respectively.

Total wages increased 1.9% from the same period in 2001, and increased by 9.4% from third quarter 2002, for an average weekly wage of \$612.85.

Average weekly wage data for each RLMA is listed in the following table. Average weekly wage data by NAICS sector and subsector is shown in the table "Louisiana Statewide" beginning on page 6.

Parish	Avg. Wkly. Wage
RLMA 1	\$ 662.97
RLMA 2	617.55
RLMA 3	623.17
RLMA 4	616.49
RLMA 5	580.18
RLMA 6	516.22
RLMA 7	564.40
RLMA 8	524.77

The number of reporting units for fourth quarter 2002 was 115,710, an increase of 155 units or 0.1% from third quarter 2002, and an increase of 1,190 units or 1.0% from the same period in 2001. The number of reporting units for fourth quarter 2002, third quarter 2002, fourth quarter 2001, and the percent change for the major industry sectors is shown in the table "Louisiana Average Employment and Units – Fourth Quarter 2002" on page 3.

Due to the conversion to NAICS, this data should not be compared to data in publications prior to first quarter 2001.

# LOUISIANA MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT

